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REC'D 22 JUL 1996

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**PRIORITY DOCUMENT**

Signed

*M.S. Davis*

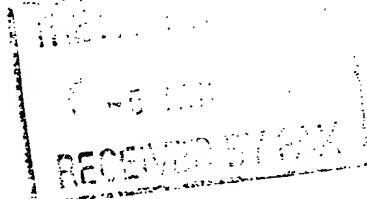
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05JAN95 E165627-1 D02613  
PO1/7700 25.00

Your reference BR/JM/PAS/PO1UK2

9600197.9

- 5 JAN 1995

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**The  
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# Request for grant of a Patent

## Form 1/77

Patents Act 1977

**1 Title of invention**

1 Please give the title of the invention **BUILDING COMPONENT**

**2 Applicant's details**

**First or only applicant**

2a If you are applying as a corporate body please give:  
Corporate name

Country (and State of incorporation, if appropriate)

2b If you are applying as an individual or one of a partnership please give in full:

Surname **SCHOFIELD**

Forenames **FREDERICK ANDREW**

2c In all cases, please give the following details:

Address **3 CRAWFORDSBURN WAY  
NEWTOWNARDS  
COUNTY DOWN  
NORTHERN IRELAND**

UK postcode  
(if applicable) **BT23 4RY**

Country **UNITED KINGDOM**

ADP number  
(if known) **06777072001**

2d, 2e and 2f: If there are further applicants, please provide details on a separate sheet of paper.

**Second applicant (if any)**

2d If you are applying as a corporate body please give:

Corporate name

Country (and State  
of incorporation, if  
appropriate)

2e If you are applying as an individual or one of a partnership please give in full:

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Forenames

2f In all cases, please give the following details:

Address

UK postcode  
(if applicable)

Country

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(if known)

An address for service in the  
United Kingdom must be supplied

Please mark correct box

**● Address for service details**

3a Have you appointed an agent to deal with your application?

Yes  No  → go to 3b

↓  
please give details below

Agent's name ANSONS

Agent's address 240 UPPER NEWTOWNARDS ROAD,  
BELFAST  
NORTHERN IRELAND  
UNITED KINGDOM

Postcode BT4 3EU

Agent's ADP  
number 5572169001

3b If you have appointed an agent, all correspondence concerning your application will be sent to the agent's United Kingdom address.

Name

Address

Postcode

Daytime telephone  
number (if available)

ADP number  
(if known)

**Refernce number**

4 Agent's or  
applicant's reference  
numb : (if applicable) BR/JM/FAS/P01UK2

**Claiming an earlier application date**

5 Are you claiming that this application be treated as having been filed on the  
date of filing of an earlier application?

Yes  No  **go to 8**

please give details below

number of earlier  
application or patent  
number

filing date

day      month      year

and the Section of the Patents Act 1877 under which you are claiming:

15(4) (Divisional)  8(3)  12(6)  37(4)

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If you are declaring priority from a  
PCT Application please enter 'PCT' as  
the country and enter the country  
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application number.

Please give the date in all number  
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31 May 1990.

**● Declaration of priority**

6 If you are declaring priority from previous application(s), please give:

| Country of filing | Priority application number<br>(if known) | Filing date<br>(day, month, year) |
|-------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
|                   |   |                                   |

9 The answer must be 'No' if:  
 a applicant is not an inventor  
 there is an inventor who is not an  
 applicant, or  
 any applicant is a corporate body.

Please supply duplicates of  
 claim(s), abstract, description and  
 drawing(s).

### Inventorship

7 Are you (the applicant or applicants) the sole inventor or the joint inventors?

Please mark correct box

Yes  No  A statement of Inventorship on Patents  
 Form 7/77 will need to be filed (see Rule 15).

### Checklist

8a Please fill in the number of sheets for each of the following types of document contained in this application.

Continuation sheets for this Patents Form 1/77

Claim(s)

5

Description

5

Abstract

Drawing(s)

3

8b Which of the following documents also accompanies the application?

Priority documents (please state how many)

1

Translation(s) of Priority documents (please state how many)

1

Patents Form 7/77 - Statement of Inventorship and Right to Grant  
 (please state how many)

1

Patents Form 9/77 - Preliminary Examination/Search

1

Patents Form 10/77 - Request for Substantive Examination

1

Please mark correct box(es)

You or your appointed agent (see  
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 must sign this request.

Please sign here

Signed

  
 ANSONS

Date

5th Jan 1996

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 preferably accompany the fee.

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## BUILDING COMPONENT

This invention relates to a building component for use in constructing a roof for a building primarily, but not only, a building constructed having a "double skin" outer wall(s) particularly, but not necessarily, having a cavity between said skins, the cavity normally being filled or substantially so with an insulation material. A requirement of building regulations currently in force is the capping or closing-off of the top of such cavity. This capping operation is normally achieved by fabrication on site using a board of natural or synthetic material in the same, a preceding or a succeeding operation including a gable wall overhang, a barge board and a soffit. While this invention is primarily 5 concerned with the provision of gable wall overhangs, barge boards and soffits, it is also applicable to the provision of front/rear wall overhangs, fascia boards and soffits. Heretofore, overhangs have been constructed of timber as have barge boards and soffits which require regular painting maintenance with both barge boards and soffits being susceptible to rot and decay and requiring 10 periodic replacement. Barge boards and soffits have also been provided of synthetic plastics material. While these are beneficial in requiring little maintenance they tend to degrade when exposed to sunlight, due to ultra violet radiation and thermal stresses. These existing building components are 15 disadvantageous and an object of the present invention is to obviate or mitigate these disadvantages.

Accordingly, the present invention is a building component comprising a block unit having a capping til portion and an overhang portion with the outer

face of which serving as a barge/fascia board. A lower face of the overhang portion beneficially serves as a soffit.

The block unit is desirably for use with others of its kind in being laid side-by-side as a course on top of a wall. Alternatively, the block unit may be 5 provided in desired lengths. The capping tile portion of the block unit is suitable, in a first embodiment, to be positioned over the wall and, in a second embodiment, to be positioned over the outer skin of the wall. In both embodiments the overhang portion projects outwardly beyond the wall.

10 The capping tile portion is preferably of equal weight to or heavier than the overhang portion to counterbalance or overbalance inwardly the block unit when laid on a wall.

15 Preferably, the block unit is made of any durable material, for example cementitious material. The overhang portion is beneficially hollow or may have multi-cavities therein or may be cellular. The block unit may alternatively be cast from two cementitious mixtures, one containing a stone aggregate in respect of the capping tile portion and the other containing a light-weight aggregate in respect of the overhang portion which is solid.

Embodiments of the present invention will now be described, by way of example, with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:-

20 Fig. 1 is a perspective view of a part of a top and one gable of a building having a roof support structure with a gable overhang, a barge board and a soffit constructed conventionally;

25 Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a part of a top and one end of a building having a roof support structure with a course of block units according to a first embodiment of the present invention;

Figs. 3A and 3B are similar perspective views of a block unit according to a first embodiment showing different shaped hollow configurations provided in an overhang portion thereof; and

5 Figs. 4A and 4B are respectively, a perspective view and a side elevational view of a block unit according to a second embodiment.

Referring to the drawings, a building component comprises a block unit 8 having a capping tile portion 10 /10' and an overhang portion 12 with the outer face of which serving as a barge or fascia board 14A and a lower face as a soffit 14B.

10 The block unit 8 is for use with others of its kind in being laid side-by-side as a course on top of a wall 16 with the capping tile portion 10 thereover and the overhang portion 12 projecting outwardly beyond the wall 16.

The capping tile portion 10 is of equal weight to or heavier than the overhang portion 12 to counterbalance or overbalance inwardly the block unit 8 when laid on a gable wall 16.

15 The block unit 8 is made of any durable material, for example cementitious material, and can be coloured to suit a particular colour scheme for the rest of the normally painted or coloured parts of a building, for example window frames or doors. The overhang portion 12 is hollow as shown in Figs. 3A or 3B, 4A and 4B with a cylindrical or square tubular formed passage respectively. Corner or end block units 18 are provided to terminate a course of block units 8 as shown in Fig. 2 laid on top of the gable wall in the same manner as conventional bricks or blocks are laid using mortar. An apex 20 may be formed by providing mitre sides to the block units 8 to be abutting at the vertex of the wall. The top surfaces of the block units 8 are flush with the top surfaces of a series of rafters 22 which together provide a roof support structure for a tiled or slated roof including battens and felt.

The outer face of the overhang portions 12 when being moulded may be provided with a wood grain or other ornamental/decorative effect.

A gable overhang and barge board when formed in the manner described above is beneficial over the existing provision for such and requires little or no maintenance.

In a first embodiment, the capping tile portion 10 overlies and closes off the cavity between both skins in the gable wall 16.

In a second embodiment, the capping tile portion 10' overlies horizontally the outer skin of any outer wall and terminates with a downwardly extending leg portion 9 at right angles thereto, the leg portion 9 closing off the top of the cavity between the double skins of the wall.

Although the invention has been described in connection with pitched gable walls, the building component can equally be used with gable walls of flat-roofed structures and with front and rear walls of pitched gable or flat-roofed structures.

Although only shown in Figs. 4A and 4B, the block unit of each embodiment can be provided with a drip channel 24 adjacent to the outer edge of soffit 14B, and a marked or recessed panel 26 can be provided in the top face of the capping tile portion 10/10' as an indicator for the positioning of a restraining element in the form of a wooden spar (not shown) or the like forming part of a roof structure.

In a first modification, a block unit is provided in a desired length equal to and to locate between a formed apex unit and a corner or end block unit in each gable wall. Such length units may also be used in multiples along front or rear walls between corner or end block units.

In a second modification, the overhang portion is provided with multi-cavities/passage, normally axially parallel to each other, or is of a cellular structure.

In a third modification, the block unit may be cast from two cementitious mixtures, one containing a stone aggregate in respect of the capping tile portion and the other containing a light-weight aggregate, for example pumice, perlite (RTM) or expanded polystyrene, in respect of the overhang portion.

In a fourth modification, the inner end of the capping tile portion of the block unit is rebated to accommodate a heat insulation batt, namely the capping tile portion 10 has at its inner end a heat insulation batt, or the capping tile portion 10' and/or leg portion 9 have at their inner end a heat insulation batt to abut or nearly abut against the outside of the inner skin of the wall.

Variations and other modifications can be made without departing from the scope of the invention described above.

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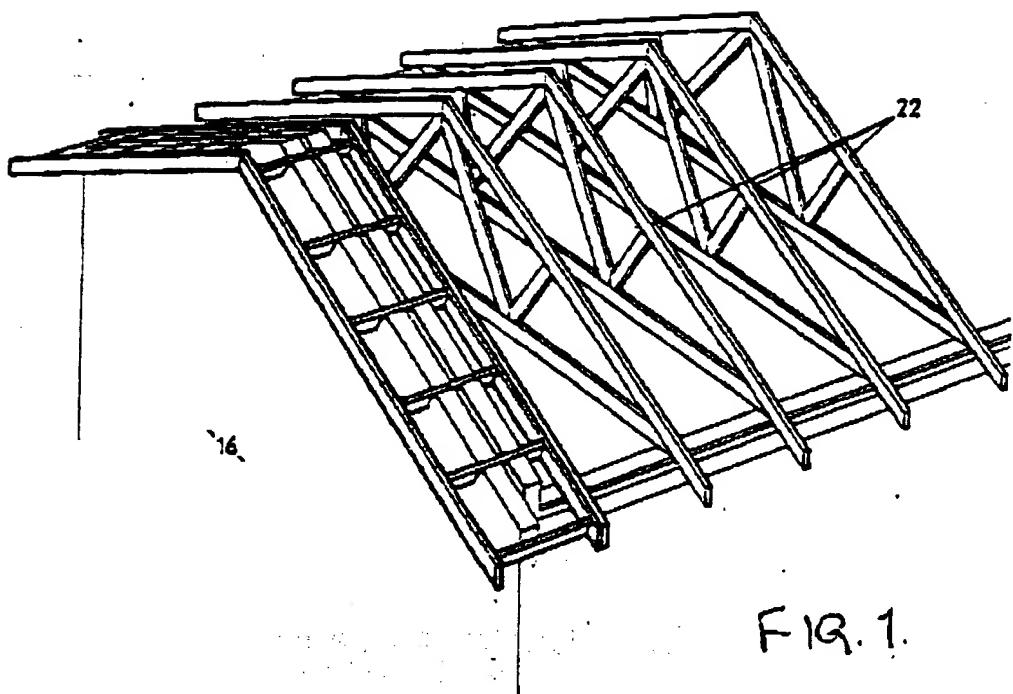


FIG. 1.

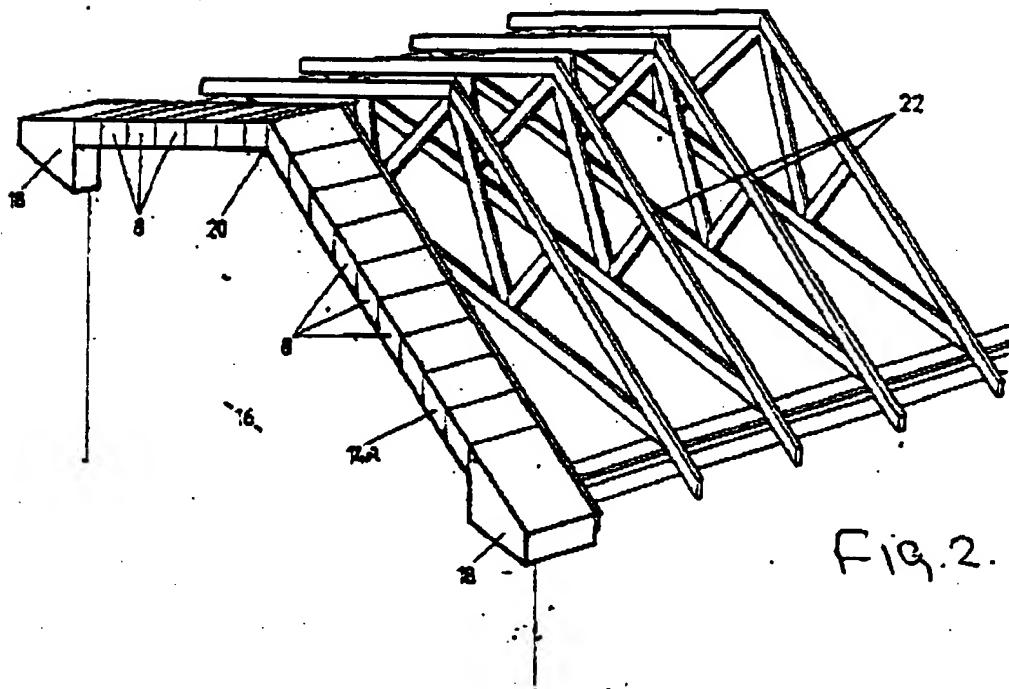
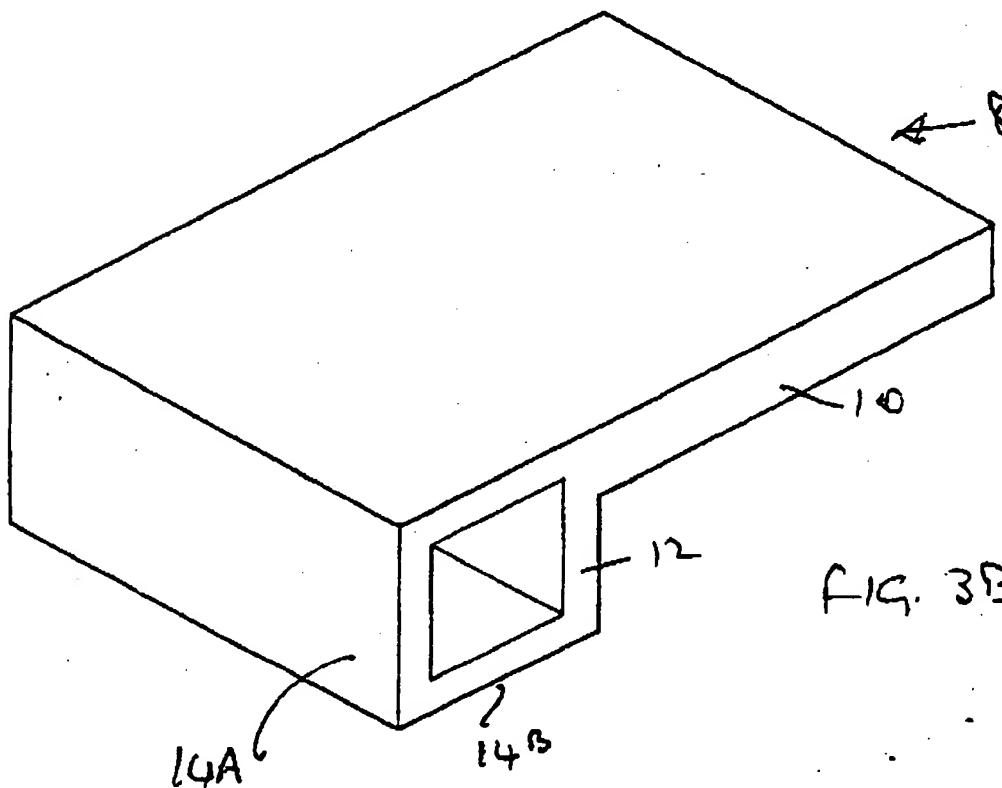
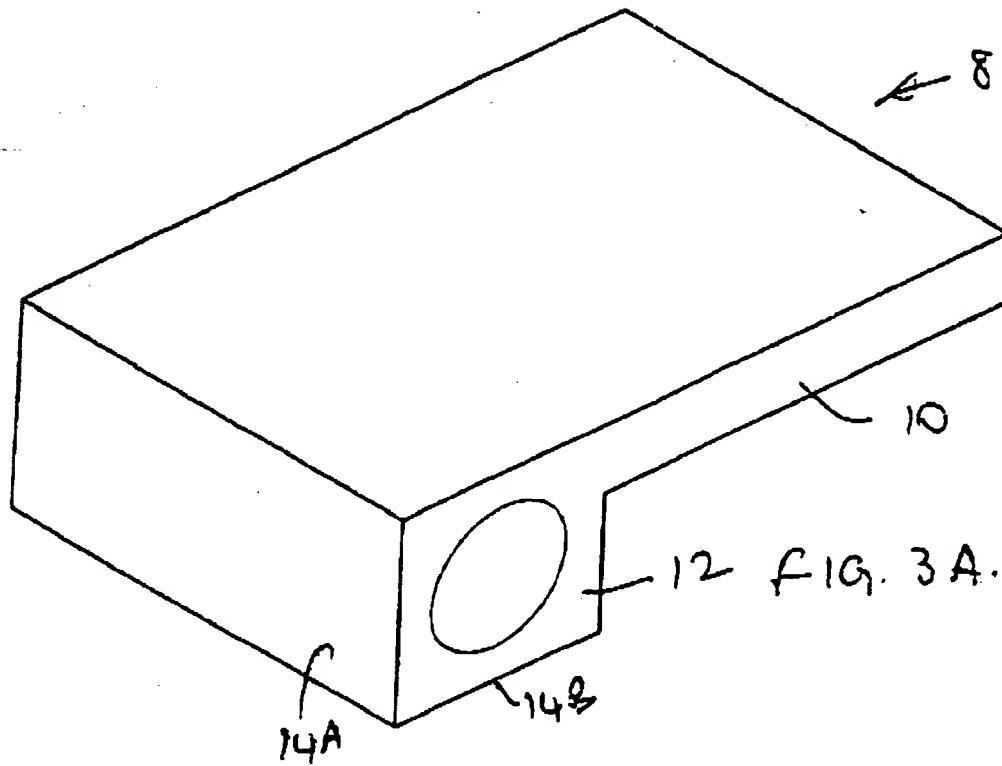


FIG. 2.

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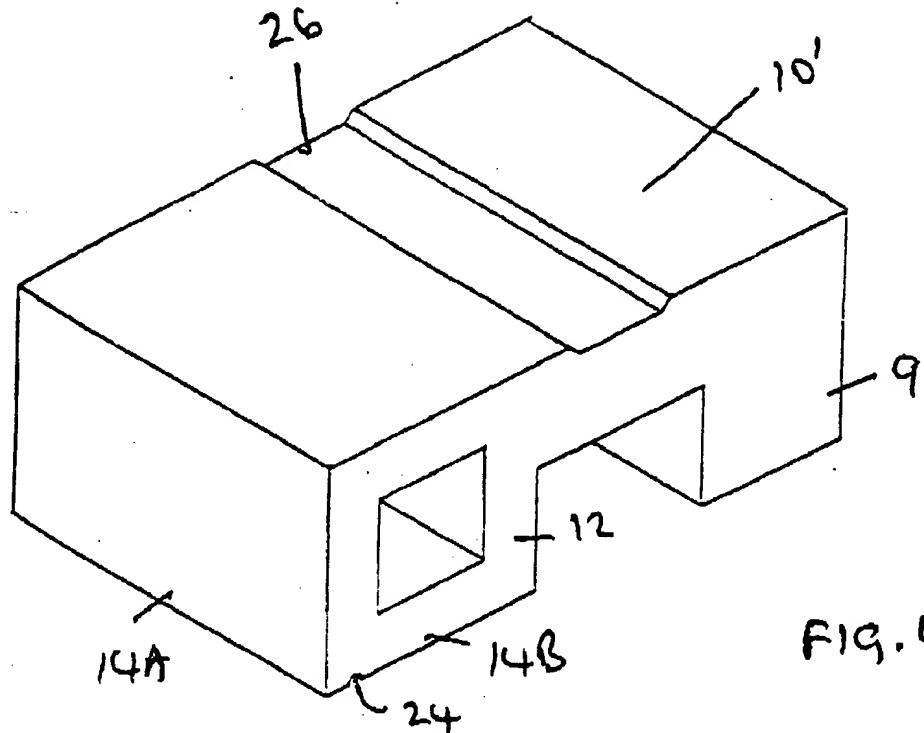


FIG. 4A

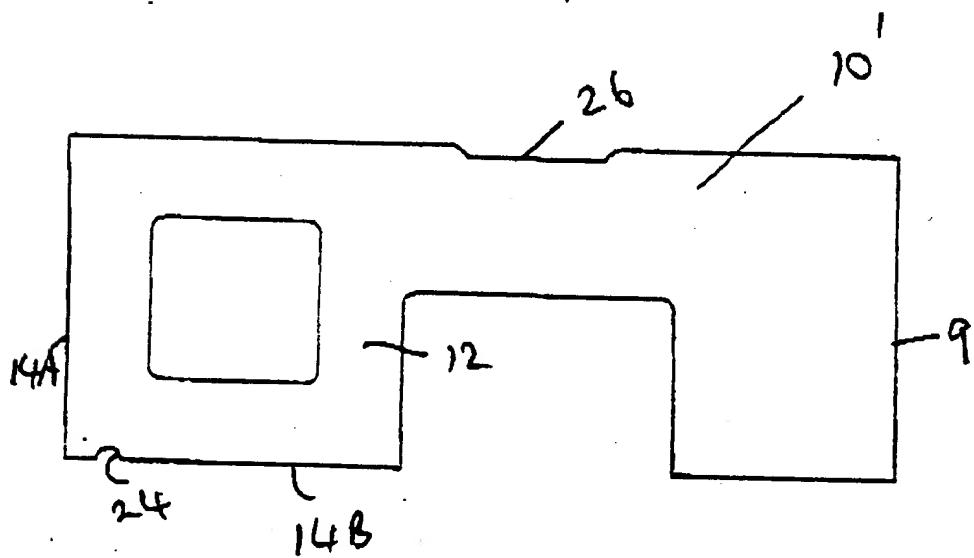


FIG. 4B

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